

IN THE CLAIMS:

*Please amend claims as follows:*

1. (Currently amended) Method, comprising:

a service center providing a query to a short message service center in a cellular network for obtaining attainability status of a mobile terminal device in order to determine whether to deliver a communication to said mobile terminal device,

said short message service center responding to the query by evaluating connection related data stored in said short message service center, wherein said connection related data is related to messages pending for delivery to said mobile terminal device, and

if said mobile terminal device is attainable, said service center delivering said communication to said short message service center for delivering to said mobile terminal device ~~in accordance with said attainability status.~~

2. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein in response to said query to said short message service center, the short message service center queries a home location register of the cellular communication network for an attainability status of said mobile terminal device, and wherein said attainability status is obtained by evaluating connection related data stored in said home location register.

3. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said connection related data are indicative of a connection state of said mobile terminal device.

4. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said connection related data are indicative of a location of the mobile terminal device.

5. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said evaluating the connection related data comprises evaluating data related to the communication.
6. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said query to said short message service center comprises a short message to said short message service center, said short message being destined for said mobile terminal device.
7. (Previously presented) Software tool for determining attainability of a mobile terminal device in a cellular communication network having a short message service center for subsequently executing a communication with the mobile terminal device in accordance with the attainability status of said mobile terminal device, comprising program code means for carrying out the method of claim 1, wherein said software tool is implemented in a program run on the short message service center, a service center or a network device.
8. (Currently amended) Computer readable medium program for determining attainability status of a mobile terminal device in a cellular communication network having a short message service center for subsequently executing a communication with the mobile terminal device in accordance with the attainability status of said mobile terminal device, comprising program code means for carrying out the method of claim 1, wherein said program is configured to run on the short message service center, a service center or a network device.
9. (Currently amended) Computer readable medium program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for carrying out the method of claim 1,

wherein said program product is configured to run on the short message service center, a service center or a network device.

10. (Currently amended) A short message service center, connectable to a cellular communication network comprising a service center and a home location register, comprising:

a component for responding to a query from the service center for obtaining attainability status of a mobile terminal device,

a component for querying the home location register to obtain connection related data of the mobile terminal device and evaluating said connection related data to obtain an attainability status of the mobile terminal device, said connection related data being related to messages pending for delivery to said mobile terminal device, and

a component for receiving a communication from the service center and delivering said communications to the mobile terminal device if the mobile terminal device is attainable for receiving said communication~~in accordance with the attainability status of said mobile terminal device.~~

11. (Previously presented) The short message service center of claim 10, further comprising a component for generating a message to the service center according to results from evaluating the connection related data.

12. (Currently amended) Network device connectable to a short message service center of a cellular communication network, comprising:

a component for generating a message for querying the short message service center for data related to messages pending for delivery to a mobile terminal device,

a component for receiving an attainability status of said mobile terminal device from said short message service center, and

a component for delivering a communication to the short message service center for delivery to said mobile terminal device ~~mobile terminal device according to said attainability status of if~~ said mobile terminal device is attainable for receiving said communication.

13. (Previously presented) Network device according to claim 12, wherein said cellular network further comprises a home location register, and wherein said network device further comprises a component for generating a message for inducing said short message service center to query home location register data of said mobile terminal device and for transferring said data to said network device.

14. (Currently amended) A short message service center, connectable to a cellular communication network comprising a service center and a home location register, comprising:

means for responding to a query from the service center for obtaining attainability status of a mobile terminal device,

means for querying the home location register to obtain connection related data of the mobile terminal device and evaluating said connection related data to obtain an attainability status of the mobile terminal device, said connection related data being related to messages pending for delivery to said mobile terminal device, and

means for receiving a communication from the service center and delivering said communications to the mobile terminal device if the mobile terminal device is attainable for receiving said communication ~~in accordance with the attainability status of said mobile terminal device.~~

15. (Previously presented) The short message service center of claim 14, further comprising means for generating a message to the service center according to results from evaluating the connection related data.

16. (Currently amended) Network device connectable to a short message service center of a cellular communication network, comprising:

means for generating a message for querying the short message service center for data related to messages pending for delivery to a mobile terminal device,

means for receiving an attainability status of said mobile terminal device from said short message service center, and

means for delivering a communication to the short message service center for delivery to the mobile terminal device if the mobile terminal device is attainable for receiving said communication~~according to said attainability status of said mobile terminal device.~~

17. (Previously presented) Network device according to claim 16, wherein said cellular network further comprises a home location register, and wherein said network device further comprises means for generating a message for inducing said short message service center to query home location register data of said mobile terminal device and for transferring said data to said network device.